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E.W.M.  
6-27-03

Docket No.: 1081.1055

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yoshio KITAMURA

Serial No. 08/932,427

Group Art Unit: 2188

Confirmation No. 5306

Filed: September 17, 1997

Examiner: Portka, G.

For: RAID APPARATUS AND ACCESS CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR WHICH  
BALANCES THE USE OF THE DISK UNITS

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

JUN 26 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed February 21, 2003, and having a period for response set to expire on May 21, 2003. A Petition for a one-month Extension of Time is filed concurrently, together with the requisite fee, thus extending the period for response to June 23, 2003 (June 21, 2003 being a Saturday). If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Amendment, please charge our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed concurrently herewith.

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

*Sub J1*  
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please REPLACE claims 1, 7, 13-15, 17, and 18 in accordance with the following:

- I1*
1. (AS NINE TIMES AMENDED) A RAID apparatus comprising:  
a plurality of physical disk units storing a plurality of copies of each of logical volumes;  
and  
a disk controller accessing any of the physical disk units which stores a designated

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